

Faculty of Music University of Toronto
present

The University Chorus

James Pinhorn, conductor

WELCOME SPRING!



Monday, March 29, 1993 at 8 pm
Victoria Chapel, Victoria College

Programme

Magnificat

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi
(1710-1736)

Mary Angastiniotis, soprano; Andrea Bellefeuille, alto
Mark McCallen, tenor; Gary Brown, bass

Three songs of Love and Loneliness

Nancy Telfer
(b. 1950)

- I. In the Rain
- II. Again with Music
- III. Grey-Beast

Selections from Fancies

John Rutter
(b. 1945)

1. Tell Me Where is Fancy Bred
2. There is a Garden in Her Face
3. The Urchin's Dance
4. Riddle Song

INTERMISSION

Songs of Nature

Antonin Dvorák
(1841-1904)

- I. Melodies Steal into my Heart
- II. Vesper Bells Rings
- III. Golden Sunlight
- IV. Slender Young Birch
- V. This Day

Five Flower Songs

Benjamin Britten
(1913-1976)

1. To Daffodils
2. The Succession of the Four Sweet Months
3. Marsh Flowers
4. The Evening Primrose
5. Ballad of Green Broom

Programme Notes and Text

Magnificat

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi was the leading figure of comic opera in the 18th century. He had limited success in his lifetime, but like so many composers, became universally famous after his death. His choral music is known for its lively declamation of the text, and its melodic charm. There is some question as to the authorship of this *Magnificat* and it has been suggested it was written or completed by Pergolesi's teacher Francesco Durante. Nevertheless, it is an excellent example of the marriage of the "style gallant" developed by the Neapolitan School and the "learned" polyphonic style of Baroque church music. Movements one and five unify the work with a Cantus Firmus-like theme based on Magnificat Tome 1.

Translation

1. Magnificat (Full Chorus)

Magnificat anima mea Dominum.

Et exultavit spiritus meus

in Deo salutari meo.

Quia respexit humilitatem
ancillae suae:

ecce enim ex hoc

beatam me dicent omnes
generationes.

Quia fecit mihi magna

qui potens est:

et sanctum nomen ejus.

My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit has rejoiced
in God my saviour.

For He has regarded the low estate
of His handmaiden:
for behold, henceforth
all generations shall call me
blessed.

For He who is mighty has done
great things to me;
and holy is His name.

2. Et Misericordia (Soprano/Alto duet)

Et misericordia ejus a progenie

in progenies timentibus eum.

And His mercy is upon them
who fear Him from generation to
generation.

(Full Chorus)

Fecit potentiam in brachio suo:

dispersit superbos

mente cordis sui.

He has shown strength with His arm;
He has scattered the proud,
even the arrogant of heart.

3. Deposuit (Full Chorus)

Deposuit potentes de sede,
et exaltavit humiles.

Esurientes implevit bonis:

et divites dimisit inanes.

He has deposed the mighty from their seat,
and exalted the humble.

The hungry He has filled with good things
and the rich He has sent empty away.

3. The Urchins' Dance

By the moon we sport and play,
With the night begins our day;
As we dance the dew doth fall;
Trip it, little urchins all,
Lightly as the little bee,
Two by two, and three by three,
And about go we, and about go we.

(Anon., 1600; from *The Maid's Metamorphosis*)

4. The Riddle Song

(Anon., XVth Century)

I have a young sister far beyond the sea:
Many be the dowries that she sent me.
She sent me the cherry withouten any stone;
And so she did the dove withouten any bone;
She sent me the briar withouten any rind;
She bade me love my lemman withoute longing.

How should any cherry be withoute stone?
And how should any dove been withoute bone?
How should any briar been withoute rind?
How should love my lemman withoute longing?

When the cherry was a flower then had it no stone;
When the dove was an egg then had it no bone;
When the briar was onbred then had it no rind;
When the maiden hath that she loweth
She is without longing.

Songs of Nature

Antonin Dvorák

Antonin Dvorák was part of the nationalist movement in what is now Chekoslovakia. Mostly known for his symphonic grandeur, his choral setting of *V priode* (*Songs of Nature*) is somewhat unusual; both personal and gentle. Brahms was a great advocate of Dvorák's music and one can easily hear his influence on Dvorák's choral style in these pieces. *Songs of Nature* is a celebration of the elements of Nature, drawing a comparison to the gifts which music can bring to the human soul. *Napadly pisne v dusi mou* (Music Descended To My Soul) compares melodies to various elements of nature, such as the dew and the approaching sunrise. *Vecerni les rozvazal zvonky* (Bells Ring At Dusk) tells of the gentle sleep which creeps upon nature at the end of a day. *Ziine pole* (The Rye Field) offers a simple scene of a summer wheat field, while *Vybehla briza belicka* (The Silver Birch) again describes nature through musical themes. The work closes with *Dnes do skoku a do pisnicky!* (With Dance and Song!) which joyously celebrates the gifts of Nature to the world. The original text was written by Vitezslav Halek, and the English text in tonight's version of *Songs of Nature* was written by Harold Heiberg.

I. Melodies Steal Into My Heart

Melodies steal into my heart;
I never know how melodies do it.
You would not ask the grass to know
whence come the diamonds that bedew it?
'Round me the world grows still and clear
As Nature greets the new day's sunrise;

Now beauty fills my soul with joy,
Now tender sadness moistens my eyes.
Dewdrops from moonlit sky appear;
And from a heart that's filled with joy and sorrow
Thence come the songs we love to hear,
And thence comes hope for a bright new day.
And thence comes hope for a brighter morrow.

II. Vesper Bells Ring

Vesper bells ring, evening is falling.
The birds of day are hushed and silent.
Only the cuckoo still is calling,
And deep in shadows nightingales sing.
Stirred by the westwind's gentle caressing,
The trembling leaves with dewdrops glimmer,
While through the trees moonlight is pouring
To fill the woods with silver shimmer.
Nodding in slumber flow'rs are dreaming.
Song birds are dreaming in the treetops.
Only the timid doe still lingers,
To drink of the crystalline dewdrops.
Now she is gone, and her departure,
Leaves silence reigning in the forest;
Ah, let the distant nightingales sing,
For such beauty can trouble no rest.
Now even she has ceased her warbling.
Veiling the woodland, darkness has spread.
Thus slowly all the realm of Nature
in quiet and peace is enfolded.

III. Golden Sunlight

Golden sunlight, Golden sunlight, Shines upon the rip'ning grain.
Warm winds whisper in the cornfields,
Harvest time has come again.
Flax and barley, toss'd by breezes
To and fro, to and fro,
And the kernels of wheat and rye grow heavy
In the sunshine's ardent glow.

Yellow butterflies are dancing,
To the buzz of bumblebees.
Whistling quail and chirping cricket
Fill the air with melodies.
Golden sunshine, golden harvest,
Wondrous world of golden hue.
This our song of harvest sun and summer
Joyously we sing to you.

Grows the lavender that lacks perfume,
At the wall's base the fiery nettle springs,
With fruit globose and fierce with poison'd stings;
In every chink delights the fern to grow,
With glossy leaf and tawny bloom below;
The few dull flowers that o'er the place are spread
Partake the nature of their fenny bed,
These, with our seaweeds rolling up and down,
Form the contracted Flora of our town.

(George Crabbe)

4. The Evening Primrose

When once the sun sinks in the west,
And dewdrops pearl the evening's breast;
Almost as pale as moonbeams are,
The evening primrose opes anew,
Its blossoms to the dew,
And, hermitlike, shunning the light,
Wastes its fair blossoms upon the night;
Who, blindfold to its fond caresses,
Knows not the beauty he possesses.
Thus it blooms on while night is by;
When day looks out with open eye,
'Bashed at the gaze it cannot shun,
It faints and withers and is gone.

(John Clare)

5. Ballad of Green Broom

There was an old man liv'd out in the wood,
And his trade was a cutting of Broom,
He had but one son without thought, without good,
Who lay in his bed till 't was noon.
The old man awoke on morning and spoke He swore he would fire the room,
If his John could not rise and open his eyes,
And away to cut Broom.

So Johnny arose and slipp'd on his clothes
And away to the wood to cut Broom,
He sharpen'd his knives and for once he contrives
To cut a great bundle of Broom,
When Johnny pass'd under a Lady's fine house,
Pass'd under a lady's fine room,
She call'd to her maid: "Go fetch me," she said,
"Go fetch me the boy that sells Broom!"
When Johnny came in to the Lady's fine house,
And stood in the Lady's fine room,
"Young Johnny," she said, "Will you give up your Trade
And marry a lady in bloom?"
Johnny gave his consent and to church they both went,
And he wedded the Lady in bloom,
At market and fair, all folks do declare,
There's none like the boy who sold Broom!

(Anon.)

The University Chorus

Sopranos

Nelly Shin
Cecilia Lee
Jennifer Hrynkiw
Jessy Lee
Chemayne Micallef
Mary Angastiniotis

Altos

Joy Tseng
Astrid Liebenweing
Joo-Joo Kang
Wakana Iwaki
Hee-Sook Lim

Tenors

Peter Shea
Dejan Badnjar
Hrach Sheherian
Jim Kaklamanos

Basses

Danny Matejic
Stephen Ham
Serouj Kradjian
Jonathan Levine
Daniel Suzuki
Deon Flash
Darius Kwiatkowski
Attila Fias
Milos Popovic
Dusan Paunivich
Anthony Michelli

Mary Angastiniotis, assistant conductor
Chemayne Micallef, manager/librarian
David Jones, accompanist

Tonight's Conductor

James Pinhorn is a native of St. John's, Newfoundland where he appeared frequently on both CBC Radio and Television as a boy soprano and actor. He moved to Toronto in 1985 and completed a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance at the University of Toronto. The following year, Mr. Pinhorn completed Special Studies in Elementary Education and Choral Conducting at the University of Toronto, and served as the Assistant Conductor of the the Concert Choir conducted by Professor Doreen Rao. He is a vocal coach for the Toronto Mendelssohn Youth Choir Conducted by Robert Cooper, and is currently a music teacher with the Scarborough Board of Education.

****Upcoming Event of Song****

Monday, April 5

University Women's Chorus

Ann Cooper Gay, conductor

The World Premier of Bruce Nicol's *O Holy Fire*

and other works from composers Galuppi,

Mendelssohn, Raminsh and Stensaas

8 pm

Victoria College Chapel \$8/\$5
